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| **Friday, June 22, 2012120622-1****In this Issue:*** **U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood Announces TIGER 4 Grants**
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| **U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood Announces TIGER 4 Grants**United States Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood today announced that 47 transportation projects in 34 states and the District of Columbia will receive a total of almost $500 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation’s TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) 2012 program. Metro’s 3 TIGER IV Applications received no funding. The full listing for TIGER IV Grants is listed [here](http://www.dot.gov/tiger/fy2012tiger.pdf). Metro Federal Relations staff and advocates communicated support with the Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, LA County Congressional Members, California Senators Boxer and Feinstein, and other stakeholders for the TIGER grant requests for the Crenshaw/LAX transit project, a bridge on Sepulveda Boulevard in Manhattan Beach and a pathway for Orange Line and Red Line passengers to more easily connect with one another in North Hollywood. We were informed this morning by USDOT officials that the reason our applications were not successful was because of our “outstanding TIGER II grant.” Metro staff is still in negotiations with USDOT on our TIGER II/TIFIA loan agreement for the Crenshaw/LAX transit project and hope to finalize it shortly.The TIGER 2012 grant program received 703 applications from all 50 states, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia totaling $10.2 billion, far exceeding the $500 million set aside for the program.  This week, as mentioned in Metro's Executive Management Committee meeting, Congressmember Maxine Waters (CA-35), along with 40 co-sponsors, introduced a bill that would provide supplemental appropriations of $500 million for the Fiscal Year 2013 and an additional $500 million for the fiscal year Fiscal Year 2014. The House of Representatives’ THUD Appropriations bill, which was approved by the full Appropriations Committee but has not yet been voted on by the full House, has no money for the TIGER grant program; the Senate Appropriations bill, which has been approved by full Committee but not yet passed by the Senate, has $500 million for the TIGER program. Metro Staff plan to present this to bill for consideration at the Board meeting next week. |
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